

Yakima National Guard Armory (Yakima Armory)
202 South 3rd Street
Yakima
Yakima County
Washington

HABS No. WA-204

HABS
WAEH
39-YAK,
2-

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

REDUCED COPIES OF MEASURED DRAWINGS

Historic American Buildings Survey
National Park Service
Western Region
Department of the Interior
San Francisco, California 94107

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HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

YAKIMA NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY HABS No. WA-204. (YAKIMA ARMORY)

Location: Yakima National Guard Armory
202 South 3rd Street (corner of So 3rd & E.
Walnut Street)
Yakima County
Yakima, Washington

Parcel number 191319-31438; Lots 1,2,3,4,5
and 6 in Block fifty three (53) in the City
of Yakima, Washington, according to the
official plat of said City on file (Book
137, Page 577) and of record in the office
of the County Auditor of Yakima County,
Washington.

USGS Yakima West Quadrangle (7.5'), Universal
Transverse Mercator (UTM) Coordinates:
10.691400.5163540

Present Owner: Military Department
State of Washington
Camp Murray
Tacoma, Washington 98430-5000

**Present Occupant
And Use:** Vacant. Building condemned as unsafe for
occupancy by the Building Inspector of the
City of Yakima.¹ Building earmarked ² for
demolition in 1994.

**Statement of
Significance:** The Yakima National Guard Armory is
historically significant as the first
permanent home of the Washington National
Guard in Yakima. The Yakima Armory was
also a great boon to the cultural, social
and sporting life of the community. The
armory's huge open drill floor was the scene
of many celebrations, exhibitions, shows,
and athletic events over the years. It
figured so prominently in community affairs
that one historian wrote "Many banquets and
events were held there and everyone who grew
up in Yakima attended at least one function
there."³

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PART I. HISTORICAL INFORMATION

A. Physical History

1. **Date of erection.** An appropriation of \$75,000 for an Armory to be constructed in the city of North Yakima was passed by the State Legislature in 1913. Ground was broken at a ceremony featuring Governor Lister on October 1, 1913⁴ with construction following shortly thereafter. The "Report of the Adjutant General for the Years 1913-1914" reports "...the building completed and turned over to the State Sept. 1st, 1914."⁵

2. **Architects:** William W. DeVeaux and Lee A. Weatherwax designed the Yakima Armory and supervised construction. Their fee for the task was \$3858.49.⁶ Mr. DeVeaux designed a number of classic residences in the Yakima area among which is the "Draper Home."⁷ L.A. Weatherwax, a graduate of the Boston School of Technology⁸, is also noted for his elegant residential designs such as the "E.W. Brackett Home" and for the "Women's Century Club" a private women's club in Yakima.⁹ By 1919 L.A. Weatherwax had moved to Seattle and was associated with the Hendrickson Construction Company.¹⁰

3. **Builder:** Storgaard & Company of Yakima was the General Contractor receiving a total of \$53,252.00 for the project.¹¹ The plumbing and heating contractor, Yakima Valley Plumbing and Heating Company, earned a total of \$7,774.00.¹²

4. **Original Owner:** In August of 1912 the Yakima Commercial Club petitioned the Adjutant General of the State of Washington, State Legislators and others to request construction of an armory in North Yakima to house the two National Guard Companies stationed in Yakima. "... North Yakima is the only city in the state maintaining two companies of the national guard which has no armory..."¹³ The City of North Yakima in concert with Yakima County raised \$10,000 to purchase property for a new armory. The property was deeded to the Military Department for use as an armory site on June 26, 1913.

1913 Deed, June 26, 1913, recorded in Book 137, Page 577, records of Yakima County. Valeria B. Frank to State of Washington.

1913 Deed, June 26, 1913, recorded in Book 137, Page 577, records of Yakima County. W.H. Thompson to

State of Washington.

5. **Alterations and additions:** With minor exceptions, the exterior of the armory is virtually unchanged in appearance from the time of its construction. The center portion of the front parapet (east elevation) collapsed during a windstorm in November 1985. Basement windows on the south and east elevations have been bricked in. The bricked in windows have each had a 15 1/2 X 7 1/2" cast iron ventilator grill installed. The original flag pole above the center bay window has been removed and the main entry doors were replaced by glass and aluminum doors circa 1959. Two doors with pre-cast concrete porches and stairs were constructed flanking the arched doorway on the Walnut Street (North) side of the building. Windows on the monitor atop the barrel vault roof have been boarded over as have the windows on the north end of the Drill Hall. Interior renovations have also been relatively minor in nature. The heating, electrical and lighting systems have been upgraded over the years. A concession stand was built on the southeast corner of the drill floor and the vehicle access to the drill floor has been modified to include an electrically powered steel coiling door. Considerable remodeling has been done in the office areas with false ceilings, new lighting, etc. However the grand stairway, hallways and drill floor retain much of the original appearance of the building.

B. Historical Context:

The first permanent American presence in the Yakima Valley was at Fort Simcoe where a small garrison comprised of soldiers from the 9th Infantry Regiment under the command of Major Robert Selden Garnett established a small post in August of 1856.¹⁴ Following settlement of the indian troubles of the 1850s homesteaders, mostly cattlemen at first then farmers and orchardmen, began moving into the area.¹⁵ Yakima City was incorporated in 1883 in anticipation of the arrival of the Northern Pacific Railroad however the Northern Pacific Railroad was not impressed with the settlers choice and chose a site several miles farther north which was called North Yakima. The disappointed original promoters changed the name of their city to Union Gap while in 1918 North Yakima was shortened to Yakima.¹⁶

There was considerable interest in the establishment of a militia unit in the Yakima Valley. On 17 March 1890, Company E, Second Regiment of Washington Infantry was formed in North Yakima. In June of 1893 a cavalry troop was formed. The National Guard has

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had a continuous presence in Yakima since 1890 except for periods of active duty in 1898 (Philippine Insurrection); 1917-1918 (World War I) and 1940-1945 (World War II). The Yakima Armory at South 3rd and East Walnut has been home to a number of National Guard units over the years including infantry, field artillery, anti-aircraft artillery, radio controlled airplane target detachment and most recently a tank battalion.¹⁷ The Armory was occupied by elements of the Washington Army National Guard until March 1993 when the building was declared unsafe for occupancy and the Military Department was ordered to "Vacate and secure the building within 30 days."¹⁸ The Yakima Armory even has a ghost, "Old Soldier", who calls roll on the abandoned drill floor at night.¹⁹

Prior to construction of the Armory in 1914 Yakima Guard units were housed in a succession of rented facilities including a former church, a grocery warehouse and others. Fires caused considerable damage to Guard property in 1905, 1910 and 1912.²⁰ The latter incident set in motion a series of events leading to the purchase of property by the City of North Yakima and Yakima County which was donated to the State of Washington in 1913 for the purpose of constructing an armory in North Yakima.

Yakima National Guard units resident in the Yakima Armory were mobilized for active duty in 1916 for the Mexican Border Campaign; 1917 for World War I; in 1940 for World War II and 1950 for the Korean War.

The Yakima Armory was the scene of numerous community events over the years. Most recently, with the advent of other large exhibition halls in the community, the Armory was less frequently used as an exhibition hall. However it continued to be used for high school basketball practices and games for a number of years. Virtually everyone who lived in Yakima over the last 75-80 years has attended a function in that splendid old brick building at the corner of South Third and East Walnut.

Prepared by: John L. Murphy
Title: Historian/Project Person
Affiliation: Military Department
Date: August-December 1993

PART II. ARCHITECTURAL INFORMATION

A. General Statement:

The Yakima Armory, which was constructed in 1913-1914, is a two story unreinforced brick masonry building with reinforced concrete columns. The office area (east elevation) or

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"headhouse" has two stories and a basement. Basement walls and floor are poured in place reinforced concrete.²¹ The roof over the office areas (east elevation) is flat with trussed girders for the main framing and 1" straight sheathing. The Drill Hall roof is a barrel vault form with a monitor across the trusses running the center sixty feet of the vault. It has a clear span of 88 feet 7 inches wide by 136 feet 6 inches long and measures 32' 6 " from floor level to the bottom of the trusses. The roof main frames are curved Pratt trusses made of riveted steel supported by reinforced concrete columns. The armory's foot print is 140 feet 4 inches by 133 feet 10 inches. The "headhouse" contains offices, classrooms, latrines, hallways and entry ways. The basement under the "headhouse" has storage rooms, arms vaults, mess hall, heating plant and a rifle range.

1. **Architectural character:** The Yakima Armory is a fine example of the "Richardsonian Romanesque" style. It is a handsome building that merits recording also because it was the first of a series of modern Washington National Guard armories that departed in design from the crenelated brick forts that preceded it. The Yakima Armory was designed not just to house, train and administer National Guard units but with an eye also to community use of the facility. Gone were the battlements of the urban fortress armory of an earlier era. This new armory was a home for the Guard but also a community cultural resource, a gathering place for exhibitions, concerts, dances and other entertainments in addition to the military uses of the building. Governor Lister highlighted the concept of the armory as a cultural resource in his remarks at the ground breaking ceremony. "While the first purpose of the armory is to furnish a home for the National Guard, it is in a large sense the property of the people and is to be opened for their use whenever a fitting occasion occurs."²² The Adjutant General did not always agree with his Commander-in-Chief. Brigadier General Maurice W. Thompson, in his Report to the Governor for the years 1913-1914 said "It has been the experience of every Adjutant General since the completion of the first armory built by legislative appropriation that the rental of these buildings for any purpose is injurious not only to the National Guard troops occupying them but to the buildings themselves."²³

2. **Condition of fabric:** The armory's condition ranges from poor to fair. A section of the front parapet, weakened by the flexing of a flag pole, collapsed during a windstorm in November 1985. The glazed ceramic trim is

crazed and some portions have lost their glossy finish. Major deterioration of the south wall of the building has occurred to the extent that daylight can be seen through cracks in the wall. The mortar is failing on whole sections of the exterior walls where it is so soft that it can be easily removed with a finger nail file. The deteriorated condition of the mortar possibly can be attributed to the brick being laid during the winter of 1913-1914. Meteorological data shows that the normal daily low temperature is only 18 degrees fahrenheit in January rising to a chilly 28 degrees in March.²⁴ The south portion of the west Drill Hall wall has shifted and is bowed outward. The rafters lack 1 1/2" of disengaging from the bearing wall. Mortar caps of horizontal surfaces are badly eroded.

B. Description of Exterior:

1. **Overall dimensions:** The Yakima Armory consists of two main sections: a Drill Hall 140' 10" X 91' 9" and a headhouse 124' 6" X 42' 5". The headhouse sits directly in front of and is centered on the Drill Hall. The headhouse has a parapet height of 41' with the first floor being 4' above grade. The Drill Hall roof is carried by 6 Pratt trusses (truss depth 14') spanning 88'. A monitor with clerestory windows for daylight illumination of the Drill Hall sits atop the vault.

2. **Foundations:** The foundation consists of load bearing concrete spread footings and stem walls for the exterior walls the width of which is 29 to 33 inches wide with piers located at areas of concentrated loads. With the exception of the truss piers the foundation is unreinforced. The crawl space under most of the Drill Hall is not ventilated, but is a totally enclosed volume. It is because of the semi-arid climate and low humidity that the wood floor structure appears to be still sound after nearly eighty years. The water table is very low in this portion of the Yakima Valley and therefore not a problem with this building.

3. **Walls:** Exterior walls are load bearing brick. Thickness of exterior walls varies from 8 to 21 inches with no reinforcing except at the truss piers. There are three decorative belt courses of glazed ceramic blocks. The cornice and frieze on the Headhouse is an elaborate dentil style of glazed ceramic tile having a height of 4' 6". The low portions of the front parapet are approximately 41' above grade. There are two types of

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brick exposed to the exterior. Facing South Third Street and East Walnut Street is a dark brown brick (probably a more expensive higher fired brick.) On the west and south elevations the brick is a common red brick. The common red brick is weathering badly. The walls fronting on Third Street and Walnut Street are all running bond except for the true arches on the east and north elevations. The common red brick of the west and south elevations are laid using a common (American) bond. The end roof trusses in the Drill Hall portion of the building are also exterior walls the outside finish of which is stucco. The monitor walls are covered with plywood which has vertical grooves on 4 inch centers. The east elevation is the most ornately decorated facade with three belt courses of white glazed ceramic brick and three bay windows framed in glazed ceramic tiles. The center bay window rests on a large white ceramic eagle (wing span is 7' 6") which rests on an ornamental white ceramic keystone. Window sills have white ceramic sills visually drawing attention to the bases of the windows. On the west wall of the Drill Hall the bricks are corbeled to form a protective cover for the end of the steel truss. On the south wall of the Drill Hall the bricks are corbeled to provide cover for the ends of the ties anchoring the walls to the roof.

3. **Structural Systems, framing:** The headhouse has load bearing masonry walls with light wood (2"X 10" and 3" X 12" wood members) framing carrying the floors and roof. The Drill Hall roof structure consists of reinforced concrete piers supporting riveted steel Pratt trusses. The trusses span 90' and are spaced 19' 7 3/4" on center. The interior balcony is suspended from the trusses by 1 1/2" steel rods. These rods support 12" X 16" solid sawn timbers which support the balcony. The floor structure of the Drill Hall consists of wood flooring over 3"X 12" floor joists spaced at 12" on center. The 3"X 12"s span 14' 11" and bear on continuous stem walls closing an unventilated crawl space.

4. **Porches, stoops, balconies, bulkheads:** Stoops are all concrete. Stoops on the two added doors on the north side of the Drill Hall are pre-cast concrete. The original stoop on the north elevation appears to have been replaced as does the stoop on the east elevation.

6. **Chimneys:** The headhouse has chimneys at both the north and south ends of the building. The chimneys are concealed behind the parapet walls. The boiler chimney

is on the northwest corner of the building. The boiler chimney's large size (4'6" X 4'6") and sixty foot height make it a visually significant element as viewed from the north and west elevations.

7. Openings:

a. **Doorways and doors:** The main entrance doors (east elevation) were replaced (circa 1959) with an aluminum and glass store front style system. The original wrought iron gates were removed. On the north elevation the two new doors are hollow metal. The original exit uses a steel style and rail door with one large flat panel. The leaf size is 5'-0" wide and 7'-6" high. The plans show round top doors to fit the brick arch. The present doors have half elliptical opaque transoms to infill the space between the doors and the arch. In the alley at the south west corner of the building is a coiling steel door which appears to be newer than the rest of the building.

b. **Windows and shutters:** Drill Hall windows were in three locations in the north wall of the Drill Hall. There were operable windows of similar size and construction as the "headhouse" windows. In addition windows were installed between the web members of the end trusses. The windows were of wood frame construction 4' wide and 6' high with a 3x3 grid of 9 lights all fixed sash. There were four windows on each end of the building and placed to follow the bow of the Pratt trusses. The monitor windows are 28"x37" pivoted wood frame windows. There are six of these on each side of each bay in the monitor. The monitor windows were remotely operated by hand wheels on the balcony level of the Drill Hall. Each hand wheel operated eighteen windows. Top floor windows in the "headhouse" are all wood framed. They consist of a three section unit. The top sash is fixed and the lower two are double hung. The upper two sashes each have six lights in a three over three configuration. The lower sash is one light. Windows other than in the bay windows are 2' 6" wide by 8' 0" high. The three bay windows each have three windows configured similarly to that described above except the width of the lights is 1' 6". Main floor windows are wood, double hung of two common sizes. Below each of the outermost bay

windows are two windows 3' 8" wide by 7' 0" high. They are glazed with twelve lights four wide by three high in the upper sash and one light in the lower sash. These windows are spaced 3' 8" apart to provide visual balance below the bay windows. The remaining main floor windows are situated directly below the upper floor windows and share the 2' 6" width of the upper floor windows and the 7' 0" height of the other main floor windows. Construction is similar to the other first floor windows except they have only nine lights in the upper sash. The building plans also show windows in the basement and on the Drill Hall Monitor. The basement windows have been bricked up and the monitor windows covered over. The basement windows were protected by iron bars.

8. Roof:

a. Shape, covering: The "headhouse" portion of the building is a low slope roof pitched to internal drains on the west side of the roof. The covering on the "headhouse" is a three ply, built up roof. The Drill Hall has a barrel vault on both the north and south ends of the building. The sections are 90' wide and 20' long. The sections follow the curve of the lower chord of the Pratt trusses. The mid portion of the Drill Hall is also roofed with a barrel vault form. This portion of the roof follows the curve of the upper chord of the Pratt trusses (see building sections). The barrel vault roofs are covered with asphalt built up roofing with mineral cup sheets. The center 60' of the Drill Hall has a monitor which is 16' wide. The monitor has a gable roof topped with three tab composition roofing.

b. Cornice, eaves: The cornice consists of an elaborate dentil style glazed ceramic tile course having a height of 4' 6" on the south, east and north elevations of the "headhouse". The uppermost belt course on the Drill Hall is plain, painted concrete. The roof terminates in the parapet wall except on the monitor. There is nothing of particular note on the monitor eaves.

c. Dormers, cupolas, towers: Not applicable.

C. Description of Interior:

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1. **Floor plans:** Refer to the drawings. There are three levels in the Yakima Armory. The basement level contains store rooms, latrine/shower rooms, arms storage vaults, a kitchen, rifle range and furnace room. The main floor contains offices, a hallway, entry to the Drill Hall, a large Drill Hall, stairway access to the basement and a grand stairway leading to the second floor. The second floor has a hallway, offices along the east wall and large classrooms at the north and south ends of the floor. Large doors lead out onto the Drill Hall balcony.
2. **Stairways:** There are five interior stairways and one exterior stairway. As one enters the front door of the armory the grand stairway (reverse wishbone configuration with right and left hand stairways which join a common landing and then reverse to an upward and easterly rise to the second floor - see plans) is centrally located in the Headhouse and is the dominant interior architectural feature of that portion of the building. The entire stairway finish is varnished oak. The lower ends of the balustrade are anchored with an octagonal newel post (see Photograph WA-204-19). The balustrade consists of square pickets on top of a skirt board all of which is topped by a nicely molded handrail. This assembly serves as both hand rail and guardrail on the open edge of the staircase. At the top of the stairway the handrail terminates in the oak wrapped column and a guardrail of similar design continues from the column and protects the open edge of the second floor. In plan view the guard rail has a ten foot radius transitioning from the east side of the opening to the north or south side of the opening. It should be noted that there are no wall side railings. Immediately to the left (under the left hand staircase) is a totally enclosed down stairway leading to the basement of the armory. There are no railings and the material is cast in place concrete. There is a landing nine risers down where the stairs make a ninety degree turn. This stairway is unremarkable. At the southwest and northwest corners of the drill hall there are wood stairs going up to the balcony level of the drill hall. In the northeast corner of the drill hall is a stairway that serves both the balcony and also accesses the basement. It is of wood construction

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with wood tread and risers. It is of note that there is no fire separation between basement and drill floor. An exterior stairway from the kitchen, in the northwest corner of the basement to the street level, and is constructed entirely of cast in place concrete.

The building plans show stairs in the north and south west corners of the headhouse. The plans do not show the stairs in the northeast corner of the drill hall continuing to the basement.

3. **Flooring:** There are hardwood floors throughout the armory except for the latrines and the basement level. The floors and stairs in the headhouse are of oak. The drill floor is 7/8" thick maple. The latrine floors on the first and second floors are finished in white hexagonal tiles with black, geometric borders. The main level hallway floor has been covered over with a green variegated asphalt tile with a dark green accent course around the perimeter (this was probably done at the same time the main entrance was changed.) The basement latrine in the southeast corner of the basement has a variegated brown 1" tile floor which was installed as part of a remodel of the original latrine. The remainder of the basement level, except for the wooden "firing room" floor in the rifle range, has painted concrete floors. Individual offices have had carpet installed over the existing hardwood flooring.
4. **Wall and ceiling finish:** A newspaper description of the armory from 1914 states "The whole of the headhouse has been plastered with three coats, the last being a white putty coast finish. The hallways show the handsome beam and ceiling plan and the cornice shows the pilaster treatment. The hallway above shows the free-column treatment with composition base and cap." Generally the interior walls of the armory have been kept as plain painted surfaces. Some individual offices have had wood panelling and drop ceilings installed. The drill hall has painted walls but the vaulted ceiling has remained unpainted.
5. **Openings:**
 - a. **Doorways and doors:** The doors off the main

hallway leading into office spaces are 2' 8" wide by 7' 0" tall and 1 3/8" thick. They are of varnished oak with two wood panels, a textured obscure glass light and a mechanically operated clear glass transom. The clear glass throughout the Armory has imperfections typical of glass used up until the 1920s. Closet doors are 2' 4" wide by 6' 8" high and 1 3/8" thick of varnished wood with five panels. Doors to the stalls in the toilet areas are 2' 2" wide by 4' 6" high and 1 3/8" thick of painted wood with one plain panel and a louvered panel on top. Double doors, each side of which is 3' wide by 7' tall by 1 3/4" thick, have two panels each the bottom panel of wood and the top panel of obscure glass. There is a transom with five lights of clear glass. The main double doors leading to the drill floor are solid oak with a clear varnish finish. The doors have five wooden panels each and the doors themselves are 4' 6" wide by 8' 6" high by 1 3/4" thick. The doors on the second floor match the doors on the first floor. Casings are 5" wide oak finished to match the doors. On the corridor sides the casings are ornamented with 3 linear veins. The basement doors are similar to the upper floors except they are painted and are un-cased.

- b. **Windows:** Top floor windows in the "headhouse" are all wood framed. They consist of a three section unit. The top sash is fixed and the lower two are double hung. The upper two sashes each have six lights in a three over three configuration. The lower sash is one light. Windows other than in the bay windows are 2' 6" wide by 8' 0" high. The three bay windows each have three windows configured similarly to that described above except the width of the lights is 1' 6". Main floor windows are wood, double hung of two common sizes. Below each of the outermost bay windows are two windows 3' 8" wide by 7' 0" high. They are glazed with twelve lights four wide by three high in the upper sash and one light in the lower sash. The remaining main floor windows are situated directly below the upper floor windows and share the 2' 6" width

of the upper floor windows and the 7' 0" height of the other main floor windows. Construction is similar to the other first floor windows except they have only nine lights in the upper sash. The interior window trim is wood finished to match the doors. Casings are 1 1/2" wide and highlighted by a reveal in the plaster. The original interior wood finish may have been an orange shellac.

6. **Decorative features and trim:** The interior of the Yakima Armory is a compromise between the florid exposition architectural style of the era (Weatherwax's father had been heavily involved in designing buildings for expositions for twenty years prior to construction of the Yakima Armory) and the strictly utilitarian military needs of the structure. The city fathers of North Yakima had visited the splendid new armories in Seattle and Tacoma and were determined to have such a facility in their community. It wasn't to be just an armory it was also a community resource for exhibitions, gatherings, dances, speeches, and festivals. As such, it was a matter of civic pride that the building should be pleasing to the eye as well as functional. It is not surprising therefore to note the entire second floor of the headhouse is devoted to entertainment areas (Veteran's, Social and Reception Rooms with kitchen.) Both the Social Room and the Veteran's Room are dominated by massive fireplaces with large oak mantles. The space devoted to the grand stairway, the corbeled ceilings, majestic oak wrapped columns, ornate column capitals and the decorative skylight are all stylistic touches more suited to a theater or exhibition hall than a humble armory ostensibly built to house two small companies of infantry. Architects Weatherwax and DeVeaux successfully met the competing needs and created a handsome building that garnered immediate approval from the Guard and the community.
7. **Hardware:** The original hardware on doors and windows has a black iron finish. Interior doors have mortise locksets with rectangular escutcheons. The first floor fireplaces have screw drive damper operators which used a crank protruding through the front of the fireplace.

8. **Mechanical Equipment:**

- a. **Heating, air conditioning, ventilation:** The original heating plant was a coal fired, low pressure steam boiler. Steam was supplied to a large coil in an air handling system that supplied warm air to the drill hall. Heat in the headhouse was supplied through radiators. At a date unknown the boiler was converted to oil fired and remained oil fired until a major renovation of the HVAC system in 1988. During the 1988 renovation the old boiler was removed and replaced by a compact, gas only, hot water boiler and a chiller. The oil tank under the sidewalk on Walnut Street was pumped, filled with sand and sealed. Four large gas fired heaters were suspended from the ceiling of the drill hall to provide heat to that portion of the building. The headhouse was provided with a new air ventilating system that used hot or chilled air depending on the seasonal needs.
- b. **Lighting:** The original plans call for both gas and electric lighting. There are numerous locations around the building where gas connections for lights remain. None of the original gas fixtures remain nor have we been able to find a photograph or drawing of the type of gas lighting fixture used. The basement had two gas lamps, one at the foot of the stairway from the main entryway and the other on the north wall of the mess hall. The main passage way (north-south) was allotted three ceiling lamps, the two locker rooms got four lamps each, the store rooms got one lamp each as did the shower rooms and toilet. The boiler room rated two lamps and the mess hall plan shows eleven 600 watt ceiling fixtures. The first floor entry (Sally Porte) had a 600 watt ceiling lamp. The main hallway was lit by four 600 watt incandescent lamps and a combination gas-electric lamp in the center of the hallway. Each room on the first floor had a single ceiling light while the two Company Rooms each had three fixtures. The drill hall was illuminated by fourteen 600 watt nitrogen filled lamps suspended from the ceiling. There were also twenty eight 600

watt lamps on the underside of the balcony. There were two gas light fixtures indicated on the plans for the drill hall; one at the north entry and one on the east side of the drill hall at the double doors entering from the headhouse. The plans show four gas lamps on the balcony, two each on the east and west sides of the drill hall. The upstairs hallway had two 600 watt lamps plus a combination electric-gas lamp over the stairway. The social room (south end of second floor) and the Veteran's Room (north end of second floor) were illuminated by six incandescent lamps each. The restrooms, ante room, pantry and kitchen were lit by one incandescent lamp each while the Reception Room had two lamps.

- c. **Plumbing:** The original plumbing consisted of galvanized iron supply piping with cast iron waste lines. It is unremarkable in design and construction. A wet sprinkler system for fire suppression was installed circa 1959. The sprinkler system protects concealed as well as occupied areas.
 - d. **Dumb Waiter:** There was a dumb waiter in the north hallway that provided service between the store rooms in the basement level to the first and second floors. There was nothing remarkable or of particular note about the dumb waiter.
 - e. **Telephone System:** The building had a built in telephone intercom system. The armory was also hooked into the local phone system.
9. **Original furnishings:** A newspaper article in the Yakima Daily Republic of July 17, 1914 describes the original furnishings of the armory "...There will be a davenport, a library table, two card tables, four leather rockers, eight light rockers, 16 oak chairs, a magazine rack, an umbrella stand in each company quarters. Leading off the hallway along the front will be the offices of the commissioned and non-commissioned officers. The non-commissioned officers have room next to the company quarters, and the first sergeant has the next room and guards the entrance to the room for the commissioned officers. These rooms are

furnished with desks and filing cabinets for the use of the officers in keeping records and transacting business. A private stairway leads from each company to the basement below, where the gunracks are and lockers for the men. Each side is complete with toilet and shower baths, gun-cleaning rooms, etc." ²⁵ An article from the October 15, 1913 edition of the Yakima Daily Republic enthused "...Only the most up-to-the-minute stations in the service get racks and lockers according to local militia officers, and the local companies are the first in the state to receive them, though others will follow. The equipment is the forerunner of other things, equally modern, that will go to make up the furnishings of the new armory on South Third Street." ²⁶

D. Site:

1. **General setting and orientation:** The Armory is sited squarely on the lot facing east. The main entrance fronts on South Third Street (east elevation.) The long axis of the building (140 feet) runs north to south. On the south and west elevations the structure is built right up to the edge of the property line. On the north elevation (East Walnut Street) and east elevation (South Third Street) the building is set back from the property line. The immediate environs east, west and north are commercial areas. Immediately south of the Armory is a Goodwill Industries Store. There are single family dwellings along East Spruce street and farther south and east.
2. **Historic landscape design:** Not applicable. The Armory was built out to the property line on the south and west elevations and out to the sidewalk on the north and east elevations.
3. **Outbuildings:** None.

Prepared by: Ronald J. Cross
Title: Architect
Affiliation: Military Department
Date: August-December 1993

Charles E. Janvier
Title: Mechanical Engineer
Affiliation: Military Department

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Date: December 1993

John L. Murphy
Title: Historian/Project Person
Affiliation: Military Department
Date: August-December 1993

Part III. SOURCES OF INFORMATION

- A. **Architectural drawings:** The Military Department, State of Washington, has a copy, on reproducible vellum, of Set Number 14 of the original drawings. The drawings were produced by W.W. DeVeaux of DeVeaux and Weatherwax in July 1913. The original drawings have not been located. A number of minor deviations from the original design occurred during construction.
- B. **Historic views:** Two historic views are provided both of which were in the files of the Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Association. One picture is of the Armory circa 1916 showing South Third and Walnut Streets unpaved. The second picture is of the Armory circa 1938 showing trees and some minimal landscaping - this is very typical of the 1930s when General Maurice Thompson was the Adjutant General and took a personal interest in beautifying the grounds of Guard facilities around the state.
- C. **Interviews:** None conducted.
- D. **Bibliography:**

1. **Primary and unpublished sources:**

Manuscript Sources

1. **Private Papers** - Personal papers of Governor Ernest Lister contained in the Archives of the State of Washington. Contains information about Senate Bill Number 156 and miscellaneous correspondence relating to the construction of the North Yakima Armory. Of interest is the correspondence from the Tenino Stone Company protesting the use of terra cotta rather than Washington stone. Point of contact at the State Archives is Mr. David Hastings (206) 586-1492.

2. **Official Papers:**

Military Department State of Washington
Archives stored in the vaults (Building #1) of the Military Department at Camp Murray, Washington. Contains copies of the Adjutant General's Biennial Reports to the

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Governor as well as primary source documents such as titles to property, record of repairs, etc.
Real Property Files stored in the Facilities Management Office of the Military Department. Contains correspondence relating to the Yakima Armory, blueprints, copies of building inspections/surveys and photographs.
Photographic Files of the 122nd Public Affairs Detachment in Building 2, Camp Murray, Washington. Photographs and slides of the Yakima Armory.
Files of the 141st Military History Detachment stored in Building 2 (The Arsenal), Camp Murray, Washington. Manuscripts, books, photographs and oral histories some of which relate to the Yakima Armory.

2. Secondary and published sources:

"Fire In Yakima Grocery Causes \$40,000 Loss," *Yakima Morning Herald*, X (August,, 1912) pp. 1-3

"Will Urge Armory For Yakima," *Yakima Herald*, XX (August, 1912), p. 3

Angell, G.N., "Local Bidders Are Given Contracts For Armory," *Yakima Daily Republic*, X (September 1913), p. 1

"Governor Lister Visit: Ground Breaking For New Armory Is Feature," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (October, 1913), p. 1.

"Arms Racks and Lockers First of New Equipment," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, XI (October, 1913), p.4.

"State's Chief Executive Is Honor Guest In City Today, Ground Breaking For New Armory Is Feature, Late Arrival of Train Handicaps Committees, But All Appointments Met, Governor is Proud of The State's Guardsmen, Sees Beauties of Valley and Banqueted by Bar Association at Noon Hour," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (October, 1913) p. 1

"Armory Basement Done In 10 Days," *Yakima Daily Republic*, XI (November, 1913), p. 3.

"Put Last Touches On The Armory," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (July, 1914), p. 6.

Lyman, W.D., *History of The Yakima Valley Washington Comprising Yakima, Kittitas and Benton Counties*, Yakima, Washington: S.J. Clarke Publishing Company, 1919

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Kimmel, Thelma, *The Fort Simcoe Story*, Toppenish, Washington: Toppenish Review, 1954

Dryden, Cecil, *Dryden's History of Washington*, Portland, Oregon: Binsfords & Mort Publishers 1968

"Yakima...Circa 1919: An Historical portrayal of Yakima as it was in its Youth." *Yakima Herald-Republic*, XX (June, 1975) p.XXXX

Guie, Heister Dean, *Bugles in the Valley Garnett's Fort Simcoe*, Portland, Oregon: Glass-Dahlstrom Printers, 1977

Ruffner, James A., *Climates Of The States*, Detroit, Michigan: Gale Research Company-Book Tower, 1980

Blisard, Herb and Newbill, Jim, eds, *Yakima, A Centennial Perspective, 1885-1985, A Photographic and Historical Survey of Many of the City's Significant Buildings*, Yakima, Washington: Franklin Press 1985.

Pearson, Jim "Ghost Story: Sound of Old Soldier's roll call echoes in Guard Armory basement," *Yakima Herald-Republic*, 90 (August, 1993), p. 1D

E. Likely sources

1. Yakima Valley Museum and Historical Association
2105 Tieton Drive, Yakima, Washington.

2. Yakima Valley Regional Library, 102 North 3rd Street,
Yakima, Washington.

3. Northwest Room, Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Avenue
South, Tacoma, Washington.

4. Military Department State of Washington Archives, Building
1, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington.

5. Washington National Guard State Historical Society, The
Arsenal, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington 98430-5052.

F. Supplemental material:

Prepared by: John L. Murphy
Title: Historian/Project Person

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Affiliation: Military Department
Date: August-December 1993

PART IV. PROJECT INFORMATION

This is a mitigative recording required by Memorandum of Agreement between the State of Washington Military Department (Washington Army National Guard), Department of Defense (National Guard Bureau), Washington State Historic Preservation Office and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. The documentation was completed in December 1993.

The following individuals and organizations were involved in supervising and completing the documentation:

Agency Responsible: Facilities Management Office of the State of Washington Military Department, Building 36, Quartermaster Road, Camp Murray, Tacoma, Washington 98430-5052.

Project Supervisor: John L. Murphy, Administrative Assistant 4, FMO Office, Building 36, Quartermaster Road, Camp Murray, Tacoma, WA 98430-5052.

Architect: Ronald C. Cross, Architect, FMO Office, Building 36, Quartermaster Road, Camp Murray, Tacoma, WA 98430-5052.

Mechanical Engineer: Charles E. Janvier, Mechanical Engineer, FMO Office, Building 36, Quartermaster Road, Camp Murray, Tacoma, WA 98430-5052

Photographer: Ken Whitmire & Associates, Photographers, 8 North Eighth Avenue, Yakima, WA 98902

Endnotes

1. Information in a letter to the Military Department from the City of Yakima, March 1, 1993.

2. *ibid.*

3. "Yakima...Circa 1919: An Historical portrayal of Yakima as it was in its Youth." *Yakima Herald-Republic*, (June, 1975).

4. "State's Chief Executive Is Honor Guest In City Today, Ground Breaking For New Armory Is Feature, Late Arrival of Train Handicaps Committees, But All Appointments Met, Governor is Proud of The

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State's Guardsmen, Sees Beauties of Valley and Banqueted by Bar Association at Noon Hour," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (October 1913) p. 1

5.State of Washington Military Department,Report of the Adjutant General for the Years 1913-1914 (Camp Murray: Military Department, 1914) p. 26

6.Information in a ledger titled "Financial and Historical Record of The State Military Reservation and Appurtenances at Camp Murray, Felt's Aviation Field and Appurtenances at Parkwater and State Owned Armories and Sites with the boundaries of the State of Washington. Compiled by Auditor, Military Department," Circa 1941. Ledger on file at Camp Murray.

7.Herb Blisard and Jim Newbill, eds., "Yakima, A Centennial Perspective, 1885-1985, A Photographic and Historical Survey of Many of the City's Significant Buildings (Yakima, WA: Franklin Press, 1985), pp 68-85

8.Professor W.D. Lyman,History of The Yakima Valley Washington Comprising Yakima, Kittitas and Benton Counties, (Yakima, Washington: S.J. Clarke Publishing Co, 1919),II,p. 528.

9. *ibid.*

10.Lyman,II,p.528

11.G.N. Angell, "Local Bidders Are Given Contracts For Armory," *Yakima Daily Republic*, X (September 1913), p. 1.

12. *ibid.*

13. "Will Urge Armory For Yakima," *Yakima Herald*, XX (August, 1912), p 3.

14.Heister Dean Guie,"Bugles in the Valley Garnett's Fort Simcoe," (Portland, Oregon: Glass-Dahlstrom Printers,1977),p.43.

15.Cecil Dryden,"Dryden's History of Washington", (Portland, Oregon: Binsfords & Mort Publishers 1968) pp. 318-320

16.Dryden,p.315.

17.Reginald Heafield, A Brief History of the National Guard of Washington (Camp Murray: State of Washington Military Department,1952),pp.127-128

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18. Information in a letter to the Military Department from the City of Yakima, March 1, 1993.
19. Jim Pearson, "Ghost Story: Sound of Old Soldier's roll call echoes in Guard Armory basement," *Yakima Herald-Republic*, 90 (August, 1993), p. 1D.
20. "Fire In Yakima Grocery Causes \$40,000 Loss," *Yakima Morning Herald*, X (August, 1912), pp. 1-3
21. "Armory Basement Done In 10 Days," *Yakima Daily Republic*, XI, (November, 1913), p. 3.
22. "Governor Lister Visit: Ground Breaking For New Armory Is Feature," *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (October, 1913), p. 1.
23. State of Washington Military Department, Report of the Adjutant General for the Years 1913-1914 (Camp Murray: Military Department, 1914) p. 26
24. James A. Ruffner, ed., *Climates of The States*, 2d ed. (Detroit: Gale Research Company-Book Tower, 1980), p. 831.
25. "Put Last Touches On The Armory", *The Yakima Daily Republic*, X (July, 1914), p. 6.
26. "Arms Racks and Lockers First of New Equipment" *The Yakima Daily Republic*, XI (October, 1913), p. 4.